



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 2

Rain and wet soil conditions continued to slow field activities across the entire state last week, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. About 50 percent of the state reported surplus topsoil conditions as of April 30. The northern and southwestern parts of the state were the wettest. Rains were received mid week but by the end of the week, fields were drying and some planting occurred. The most progress was made in the central and southern parts of the state.

CORN AND SOYBEANS

Corn acreage planted advanced to 10 percent last week, compared with 9 percent last year and the 5-year average of 23 percent. By area, corn planting is 5 percent complete in the north and 13 percent complete in both the central and southern parts of the state.

Soybean planting progressed to 4 percent complete, ahead of last year's 3 percent but behind the 5-year average of 6 percent.

WINTER WHEAT

Ninety-one percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed**, compared with 95 percent last year and 67 percent for the 5-year average. Three percent of the wheat crop is **headed**, with the central and southern portions of the state showing the most progress. The **condition** of the crop improved slightly from last week and is currently rated 85 percent good to excellent, compared with 82 percent at this time a year ago.

OTHER CROPS

Pasture condition was rated 13 percent excellent, 67 percent good, 18 percent fair, and 2 percent poor.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 1.8 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 1 percent short, 49 percent adequate and 50 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 5 percent short, 63 percent adequate and 32 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	10	5	9	23
Soybeans Planted	4	2	3	6
Wheat Jointed	91	78	95	67
Wheat Headed	3	1	11	3

CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Winter Wheat 5/2	0	2	13	62	23
Winter Wheat	0	3	16	59	22
Winter Wheat	1	3	14	56	26
Pasture	0	2	18	67	13

SOIL MOISTURE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	1	2	0
Adequate	49	45	27
Surplus	50	53	73
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	5	5	1
Adequate	63	62	46
Surplus	32	33	53

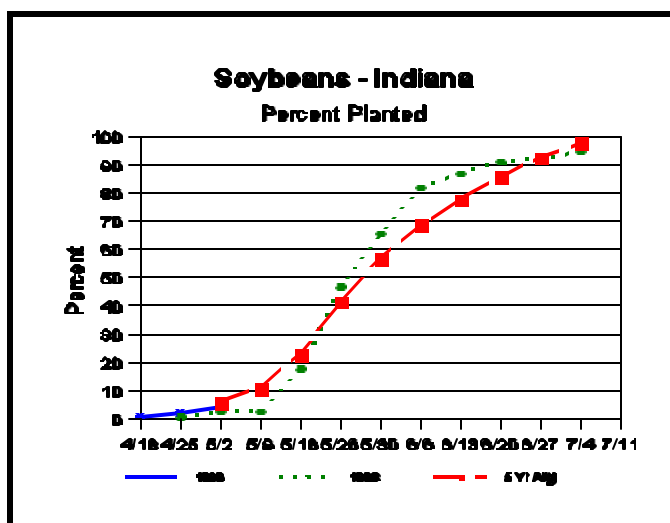
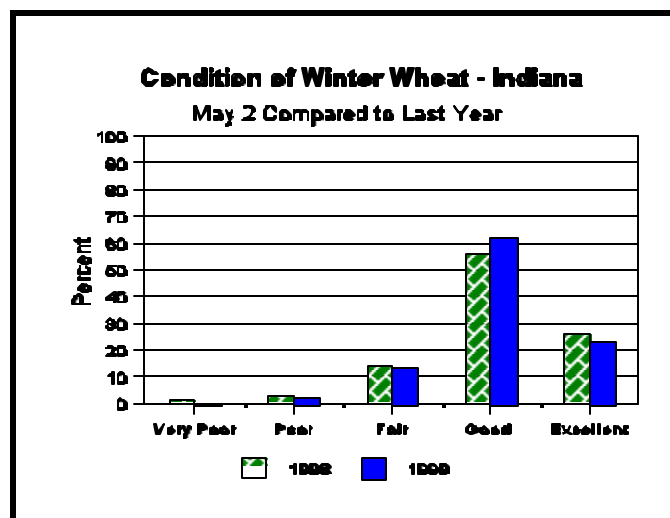
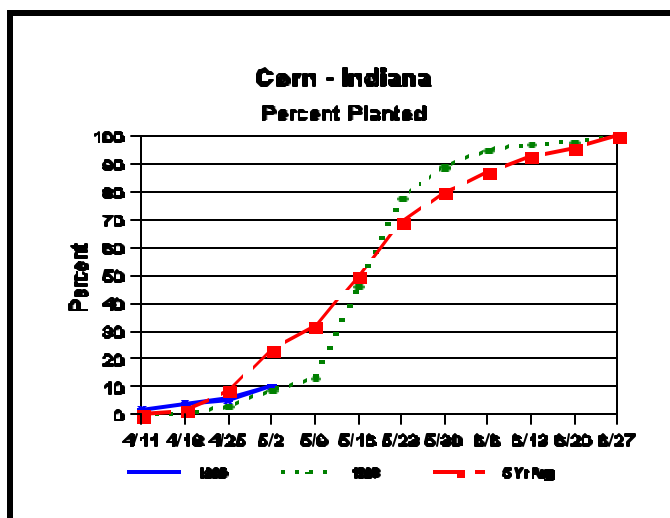
--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician

--Renee Liles, Deputy State Statistician

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Crop Progress



The Current Soybean Situation and Planting Precautions

- ™ What is the condition of soybeans already in the ground?
- ™ Delay planting until soils have dried adequately
- ™ The use of bin run seed may cost more than the savings in seed cost

has been planted. The same report shows a significant negative departure from normal in the mean temperature the past two weeks. With soil temperatures cooler than normal, the question of the day is: "What will these cool temperatures do to the soybeans that I have already planted?" This question is impossible to answer, since soil moisture and temperature for the next week to 10 days is very critical. The impact on those soybeans that have been planted can run the gamut from a perfect stand to near total loss and everything in between, only time will tell. On the positive side, soybeans planted at the Agronomy Research Center no-till on Wednesday, April 14 have begun to sprout. However, the soil has become very dense as a result of the rains over the last two weeks which may result in poor emergence.

With normal temperatures, the ideal window for planting soybeans will fall in the May 5 to 20 time period. Therefore, there is still adequate time to plant soybeans within this ideal window provided rainfall is minimal and soils dry adequately. After our experiences of the last three or four years, we are all gun-shy and want to plant soybeans as soon as possible. However, planting into soils that are too wet can result in severe compaction. Compaction, whether sidewall or below the seed, can result in restricted root growth and a plant that develops slowly. Cold soil temperatures tend to place the germinating soybean plant under significant stress and make it very susceptible to attack from the root rot organisms. Planting of no-till fields should be delayed two to three days when compared with conventionally tilled fields.

A number of producers have inquired regarding the use of bin run seed in 1999. My first word of **caution** relates to the use of patented herbicide tolerant seed, such as the glyphosate tolerant varieties. These varieties **CANNOT** be saved for use as seed. Other varieties registered under the plant variety protection act may be saved and used by the original producer **ONLY** and cannot be sold as seed to others. In most years, the use of

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Weather Data

Week ending Sunday May 2, 1999

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in. Soil Temp	April 1, 1999 thru May 2, 1999				
								Precipitation		GGD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Bloomington	73	42	58	+1	1.46	4		4.30	+0.10	15	213	+48
Bluffton	72	38	55	-1	0.55	1	51	2.66	-1.28	12	144	+39
Butlerville	75	40	57	-3	0.44	4	61	4.33	+0.03	21	197	+1
Castleton	73	37	56	-2	0.76	2		4.73	+0.70	19	193	+64
Crawfordsville	73	33	53	-4	0.80	3	56	3.49	-0.89	16	118	-22
Dubois_Ag	75	42	58	-1	1.37	4	60	4.29	-0.20	18	233	+55
Evansville	75	45	60	+0	3.58	4		6.48	+2.16	13	301	+71
Farmland	73	37	54	+1	0.25	1	50	4.65	+0.84	19	140	+62
Fort_Wayne	72	36	54	+0	0.61	1		6.41	+2.81	17	134	+43
Freelandville	74	42	58	+0	1.45	4		4.32	+0.15	16	205	+37
Greenfield	73	43	56	+1	0.35	2		3.91	-0.39	19	168	+52
Indianapolis_AP	73	44	58	+1	1.17	4		4.28	+0.32	21	225	+85
Indianapolis_SE	71	42	55	-2	0.74	4		4.44	+0.41	23	164	+35
Logansport	72	39	55	+1	1.24	1		5.33	+1.62	16	133	+35
New_Castle	71	35	53	-1	0.48	1		4.68	+0.33	19	119	+37
Perrysville	74	38	55	-2	0.78	4	54	4.58	+0.45	16	167	+44
Plymouth	72	38	54	-2	0.75	1		7.86	+3.73	15	127	+16
Scottsburg	77	41	59	+0	0.68	3		3.31	-1.15	13	232	+63
Shoals	75	41	58	+0	1.62	4		4.09	-0.33	14	213	+47
South_Bend	72	36	54	+2	0.85	1		7.50	+3.46	16	135	+50
Tell_City	77	46	61	+2	2.75	3		4.73	-0.40	8	285	+79
Terre_Haute_Ag	76	45	59	+3	0.70	3	61	3.85	-0.32	14	242	+91
Tipton_Ag	71	32	53	-2	0.92	2	52	4.17	+0.02	15	121	+38
Valparaiso_Ag	75	36	54	+0	1.19	2		6.29	+2.07	14	129	+34
Vincennes_5NE	76	40	58	+0	1.96	4	61	5.86	+1.69	19	221	+53
Wanatah	72	31	50	-3	1.31	2	56	7.25	+3.20	17	73	-1
W_Lafayette_6NW	72	39	54	-2	1.25	3	57	5.74	+1.77	15	144	+41
Wheatfield	74	37	54	+0	1.42	1		7.56	+3.54	14	125	+45
Winamac	71	41	54	-2	1.83	1		7.61	+3.69	15	134	+32
Young_America	69	35	53	-3	0.73	2		4.45	+0.74	16	115	+17

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GGD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Situation (continued)

bin run seed, if handled properly, saves very little money. The initial cost of the seed is the price at which you could have sold it at harvest. You then must add to this the costs of storage, seed cleaning, testing for germination and clean out. An additional cost that should be considered is the potential for reduced yields. A study conducted in the 1980's at Purdue, using two public varieties, showed that bin run seed resulted in a yield reduction of one bushel per acre compared to certified seed of the same varieties. If one is determined to use bin run seed in 1999, the following points should be considered: a) the seed should have been harvested at 12 to 13 percent moisture to minimize mechanical damage to the seed, b) secure a warm germination test before and after cleaning and, if possible, also obtain either a cold germination test or an accelerated aging test to evaluate vigor, c) clean the seed to remove splits, weed seed, and foreign material, d) handle the seed as gently as possible to avoid additional mechanical damage and e) **DO NOT save and replant seed of patented varieties.**

I have had a number of reports that some lots of seed being offered this year have a smaller seed size than normal due to the dry weather last August and September. Therefore, it is very important to read the seed tag to determine the number of seeds per pound and adjust drills and planters accordingly. Let's assume that last year variety X was planted with a seed count of 2,800 seeds per pound requiring 72 pounds of seed when planted with a drill at 200,000 seeds per acre. If in 1999, the same variety has a seed count of 3,000 seeds per pound, only 67 pounds of seed would be required to give the same seeding rate. Even though this is only 5 pounds less seed per acre, for each 100 acres planted it will equal a savings of 10 units of seed.

—Ellsworth P. Christmas, Specialty Crops & Soybeans, Purdue University

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